

Wellington N.S.B. 1937.
(Salop)

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Mr Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of your Town for the year 1937.

The Birth Rate has not quite maintained the standard of that of 1936, but the fall below the average is slight.

The Death Rate, while showing a rise on that of 1936, is still below the average for the Country.

Unfortunately the Infantile Mortality shows an undesirable increase, and is higher than the average for the Country.

Infectious Disease shows a greater prevalence than for the corresponding period of 1936. This may be accounted for by the presence of two small epidemics.

Incorporated is a summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Staff, and I take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspector for his care and attention in carrying out the duties of office in co-operation with me.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W.A.M.Stewart.

Wellington Urban Council.

16th May 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	Dr W.A.M.Stewart.
Sanitary and Meat Inspector	Mr C.G.Speake.
Surveyor (Sewage & Water)	Mr W.Walker.
Health Visitor	Miss Riley.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area in acres - 2256.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1937 - 9619.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books 2600


Rateable Value - £61,357. Sum represented by a penny Rate - £240.

Persons per acre calculated on the population - 4.2

Social Conditions. The Town is pleasantly situated with all the amenities of a residential district. It lies on the edge of a fertile plain, and within easy reach of the Shropshire Uplands. Lying as it does on a Main Line Junction, easy reach can be obtained to all the principal towns of the West Midlands and London. Agriculture competes with industry in maintaining the prosperity of the Town. The industrial concerns comprising as they do brewing, malting, timber-works, manufacture of school furniture and toy-making, detract little from the rural character of the Town. These clean industries do not cause a soot or smoke laden atmosphere. There are good educational facilities in the Town under the control of the County Council, and several good class residential schools. A General Market is held weekly, and there is also a good Cattle Market. A Cottage Hospital serves the Town and surrounding district, and there is a Public Assistance Institution, and Home for Ailing Babies, the latter under the jurisdiction of the County Medical Officer.

Vital Statistics for the year 1937.

	M	F	Totals	
Live Births (Legitimate)	61	69	130	(Birth Rate per 1000 of
(Illegitimate)	5	1	6	(the estimated resident
				(population' 14.1
Stillbirths (Legitimate)	5	1	6	(Rate per 1000 total
(Illegitimate)	--	--	--	(live & stillbirths. 4.42
Deaths - all causes			121	(Death rate per 1000
				(of the estimated
				(resident population 12.5
Deaths from puerperal causes:-				(Rate per 1000 total
				(live & stillbirths
puerperal sepsis			--	
other puerperal causes			1	7
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:-			80	(11 deaths)
All infants per 1000 live births				
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate			69	(9 deaths)
live births				
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate			333	(2 deaths)
live births				



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Deaths from Cancer - all ages	13
,, ,, Measles ,,	-
,, ,, Whooping Cough - all ages	-
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

Population. The estimated Mid Year ^PPopulation shows a decrease of 31 on the same population for 1936.

Births. The number of live births for 1937 (136) shows a decrease of 8 on 1936. The rate 14.1 compares with 14.9 for England and Wales.

Deaths. The number of deaths was 121. Males 63. Females 58, compared with 107 in 1936.

The crude death rate 12.5, after considering the areal comparability factor 0.94 (supplied by the Registrar-General) gives an adjusted death rate of 11.75 per 1000 population. The rate for 1936 was 10.3 and the rate for England & Wales for 1937 is 12.4.

The principal causes of death were:-

Nephritis	9
Congenital debility & premature births	8
Cerebral haemorrhage	12
Heart disease	19
Other circulatory disease	5
Pneumonia	3
Suicide	1
Other forms of violence	5
Other cause excluding infective conditions	26
Infective conditions	
Influenza	9
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	4
Other tuberculosis	1
Cancer	13
Other causes	2

The most noteworthy figure is that for Cancer - 25 in 1936.

There were no deaths from Measles, whooping-cough, scarlet fever, or diphtheria.

Death rate for Tuberculosis (Phthisis) and Cancer.

1935	0.31	1.76
1936	0.20	2.59
1937	0.52	1.35

Infantile Mortality rate:-

1937	80 per 1000 live births
1936	62 ditto
1931-35	36 ditto

England & Wales

1937	58	ditto
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Causes of death were:-

Malnutrition	1
Prematurity & Inanition	7
Tuberculosis	2
Gastro Enteritis	1

Section B. General Provision of Health Services for the area.

1. See page 1 of Report.
2. Laboratory facilities:- Birmingham University still carries out all bacteriological and pathological examinations under the County Council scheme, as there is no County Laboratory.
3. The Ambulance facilities are unchanged. A Mortuary to replace the existing one is under consideration, and it is expected, when this is completed, the Town will possess a modern and up-to-date building suitably adapted to its purpose.
4. Nursing in the home. The Health Visitor has carried out extensive visiting in the district, and has been very helpful in following up infectious diseases. The appended table is a resume of her work during the year.

Nurse Riley. Wellington Urban District Council 1937

Home visiting	743
Diphtheria - Swabs taken	69
visits	24
Scarlet Fever	2
Measles	5
Whooping cough	4
Mumps	15
Chicken Pox	45
Influenza	157
Homes reported for uncleanliness	8

5. Treatment Centre & Clinics. The Child Welfare and School Clinic are now well established and satisfactorily attended

Sect C, Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply, This is under the supervision of the Surveyor and the
 Drainage and Supply was well maintained with no shortage.
 Sewage. Chemical and Bacteriological examinations were carried out periodically with satisfactory results.
 The following is a table of the work of the year:-

Certificates issued for water supply to new houses	89.
Houses connected to public water supply	109.
Repairs to pumps and wells	nil.
New public wells	nil.
Private wells re-constructed or improved	nil.
Houses connected to public sewerage	70.
Lengths of new sewers laid	501 yards.
Lengths of new water mains laid	1888 yards

Public Cleansing. The refuse of the Town is collected regularly. The enforcement of regulation sanitary dustbins would add materially to preserving a great degree of hygiene and cleanliness, while at the same time maintaining a tidier appearance of the streets.

Sanitary Inspection. The Inspector has carried out the following work in the Town

Number of houses inspected either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease or in consequence of complaints or in course of a systematic survey

Number of legal notices sent	nil
Number of informal notices sent	122
Number of such notices complied with	91
Number of letters written	717

Particulars of Sanitary Matters referred to in the above notices:-

(a) Houses to be disinfected after infectious disease	66
(b) Deficient or objectionable water supply	14
(c) New drains to be constructed or old drains to be amended	29
(d) New closets to be provided or old ones amended in construction	22
(e) Houses damp or dirty or admitting rain or weather or otherwise in a bad sanitary condition	33
(f) Offensive accumulations of all kinds	6
(g) Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	2
(h) Unsuitable refuse receptacles replaced with regulation dust-bins	14
(i) Filthy or verminous premises or articles cleansed	nil
(j) Smoke nuisances	1
(k) Water courses ditches ponds or gutters foul or silted up	nil
(l) Nuisances arising from tents vans sheds or similar structures used for human habitation	4
Houses disinfected after infectious disease (other than phthisis)	62
Houses disinfected in cases of phthisis	4
Privies converted to water closets	1
Privies converted to earth closets	nil

Proceedings before Magistrates - nil.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one public and two private swimming baths in the district. The former is periodically inspected, and samples of water are examined by the Analyst who reported in August:- Chemical analysis satisfactory. Bacteriological - further purification and an increase in the dose of chlorine added to the water is indicated.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No Council or other houses have been disinfected by the Council. No new houses were built last year. Methods adopted by the Council for ensuring that furniture &c is disinfected of bugs before removal to Council houses is by hydro-cyanide acid gas, but the occasion has not yet arisen to use this. Owing to the possibility of danger other methods are being investigated for future use.

Schools.

No schools closed for infectious disease in the year.

Section D.

Housing.

The following table is the work carried out in the district by Inspector:-

Plans for new houses passed 167.

Housing Statistics

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	105
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	180
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	72
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	140
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	50
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	12

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	8
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year nil

4. Housing Act 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding:-

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of year	82
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	82
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	547
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	8
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved in the year	nil
Number of persons concerned in such cases	nil

Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food

The Inspector devotes a considerable part of his time to the inspection and supervision of food, maintaining a very high standard in this department of his work. The following tables give a very comprehensive survey & detailed account.

Milk Supply. Number of cowkeepers & milksellers on register	46
Number of premises - cowsheds	10
dairies	19
milkshops	2

Number of above cowkeepers & milksellers who hold licences under the Milk (Special designations) Order 1936 in respect of:-

	Tuberculin tested	Accredited.	Pasteurised.
(a) establishments of producers & bottlers	-	2	-
(b) establishments of producers only	1	-	-
(c) establishments of bottlers only	-	-	-
(d) shops or other establishments not being where the milk is produced or bottled	-	-	-
(e) supplementary licenses to sell milk from shops &c outside the area of the licensing Authority	1	-	3

Number of Inspections	20
Defects found (1) in cowsheds -	-
(a) floor or cubic space	-
(b) ventilation	-
(c) lighting	-
(structure of floor	-
(e) drainage	-
(f) cleanliness	4
(2) in surroundings of cowsheds	6
(3) in sanitary condition of drains	2
(4) in sanitary condition of milkshops	-
(5) in water supply	-
Number of notices - verbal and written	12
Number of these notices complied with	12
Number of defects found and not yet remedied	-

Meat
Inspection.

Meat Inspection

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	572	115	1812	6705
Number inspected	279	52	524	3864
All diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	56	14	17	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	56	-	56	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- -culosis	40.14	26.9	13.9	0.129
Tuberculosis only.				
Whole carcasses condemned	33	-	-	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- -demned	15	-	-	649
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	16.5	-	-	16.6

1. Number of slaughterhouses in district - 10.
2. Number of persons licensed to stun and slaughter animals in slaughterhouses and knackers' yards - 27.
3. Action taken with regard to inspections of slaughterhouses shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared - Routine inspection of slaughterhouses stalls &c in markets each week. Shops and places where food is prepared inspected periodically and as required.

Weights in Lbs of diseased, unsound or unfit meat found in animals inspected.

	Casualty Carcases & Offals.	Ordinary Carcases & Offals.	Totals.
Beef	66770	238	67008
Veal	975	-	975
Mutton	1228	40	1268
Pork	63	15714	15777
	69036	15992	85028

English Meat Destroyed

		<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Casualty.					
Ordinary.	Total weight	30	16	1	16
	,,	7	2	3	4
	Total	37	19	0	20

Particulars of Diseased Conditions Found:- Tuberculosis - Localised -
& Generalised - and other Generalised Conditions.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Tuberculosis Localised	13	-	-	636	649
,, Generalised	33	-	-	6	39
Peritonitis	2	-	-	-	2
Black Quarter	2	-	-	-	2
Odema	7	2	4	-	13
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1
Malodour	1	-	-	-	1
Sepsis	2	-	2	-	4
Hydremia	-	-	3	-	3
Rickets	-	-	-	1	1
Jaundice	-	1	-	-	1
Secur	-	-	-	-	1
Pyemia	-	1	1	-	2
Anemia	1	-	1	-	2
Nephritis	1	-	-	-	1
Accidents, defective bleeding, degenerations &c	39	9	6	-	54
	89	14	17	7	127

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption is much less than the total amount condemned in the year 1936. The total weights of meat condemned amount to 37 tons, 19 cwts, 20 lbs, involving the destruction of 127 whole carcasses found to be diseased, unsound or unfit. It will be observed that over 30 tons of this meat was condemned at the casualty slaughterhouse, but is less than half the amount condemned last year. The animals dealt with at this slaughterhouse are drawn from a wide area, and are collected from farms outside this district. Such meat as is passed for human consumption is not sold retail in this district. Meat voluntarily surrendered by the ordinary butchers of the town amounts to 7 tons, 2 cwts, 3 qrs, 4 lbs.

As compared with last year, there is a slight decrease in the percentage of tuberculosis found in bovines and swine, a decrease of approximately 1 per cent in each case. Of 279 beasts inspected, 46 (or approximately 16.5 per cent) and of 3864 pigs inspected, 642 (or approximately 16.6 per cent) were found to be suffering from tuberculosis in some degree. The high standard of meat offered for sale by the butchers of the town has been maintained throughout the year.

Animals inspected under the Tuberculosis Order 1925.

The following is a summary of the inspection of animals brought into this district under this Order, with a view to the whole or part of the carcass being passed for human consumption. 147 animals were thus inspected. The clinical examinations, carried out by the Veterinary Officers of the Salop County Council, resulted in their being classified under the following heads:-

(a)	Suffering from Tuberculosis of the Udder	56
(b)	,, Tuberculous Emaciation	14
(c)	Giving Tuberculous Milk	..
(d)	Suffering from Chronic Cough showing definite tuberculosis	73
	Not classified	<u>4</u>
	Total	<u>147</u>

These animals were subsequently examined, post mortem, by me, and the following conditions were found.

Suffering from Generalised Tuberculosis	73
,, Localised	70
No tuberculosis lesions were found	<u>4</u>
Total	<u>147</u>

Generalised conditions entailing the destruction of the whole carcass and viscera were:-

Generalised Tuberculosis	73
Localised ,, and Odema	8
,, ,, and Emaciation	7
Johnes Disease and Emaciation	1
Odema and bruising	<u>1</u>
	90

Localised conditions entailing destruction of parts only	55
No disease	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>147</u>

The approximate weights of carcasses and viscera destroyed as unfit for human consumption was 27 tons 13 cwt. This weight is not included in the weights given for condemned meat in the casualty & ordinary meat inspection.

Other Foods Inspection.

The following food stuffs were voluntarily surrendered during the year being unfit for human consumption:-

Fruit - 42 tins. Meat - 6 tins. Fish - 2 tins. Pickles - 8 tins.
Milk - 6 tins. Bovril - 1 bottle. Jam - 5 jars. Coffee - 1 bottle.
Soups - 4 tins. Onions - 3 jars. Sauces - 1 bottle.
Lemonade - 1 bottle. Ry-vita - 1 packet. Bacon - 26 lbs.
Potatoes - 54 cwt.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Written notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted.</u>
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	14	6	--
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	25	--	--
Workplaces (other than out-workers' premises)	-	--	--
Total	39	6	--

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</u>	<u>No. of prosecutions.</u>
<u>Nuisances under P.H. Acts.</u>				
Want of cleanliness	--	--	--	--
Want of ventilation	--	--	--	--
Overcrowding	--	--	--	--
Want of drainage of floors	--	--	--	--
Other nuisances	4	4	--	--
Sanitary accommodation -				
Insufficient	--	--	--	--
Unsuitable or defective	--	--	--	--
Not separate for sexes	2	2	--	--

Offences under Factory and Workshops Acts:-

Illegal occupation of under-ground bakehouse	--	--	--	--
Other offences	--	--	--	--
	6	6	--	--

Section F.

1937 was marked by the greater prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in the district, the latter disease had its numbers raised by two small epidemics. One in Feb - March in the Children's Home, and another Novr - Decr in the Wrekin College. Following these epidemics, the sanitary circumstances of the Home and College have been investigated, and improvements suggested, but no definite source could be traced for the outbreak of this disease. Diphtheria immunisation started in Octr 1936 is still being offered to children, the course consists of three injections with no Schick Testing, and in the year 86 complete courses were given.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1937. .

Disease	Total cases notified		Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
	1937	1936	1937	
Scarlet Fever	18	10	7	
Diphtheria	42	25	24	
Puerperal Faver	-	1		
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2		
Pneumonia	24	18		
Erysipelas	-	3		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	3		

Age incidence Years	S.Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia
3-4	1	4	1	
4-5	2	1	2	
5-10	9	13	8	
10-15	1	8		
15-20	1	11	5	
20-35	2	2	3	1
35-45	2	3	3	1
45-65			2	

Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality during 1937

Age Periods	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	MF	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
1	-	-	1	1				
5	-	-	-	2				
15								
25	3	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
35	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
45	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
55								
65	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-

